

This I Believe Grading Criteria

Argument: the essay has a clear thesis or coordinating theme regarding your belief; the essay is supported with well-chosen examples to illustrate why this belief is important to you.

Organization: the structure flows logically from one idea to the next with clear transitions that connect the various sections of the essay

Cohesion: the tone of the paper fits the audience and purpose; the background music or sound effects complement the message in such areas as tone, audience addressed, content

Style: the writing is precise and vivid, sentence structure is varied. The writing has a sense of the author's presence (the writing feels like "someone is home").

Presentation: the audio components blend well with no sense of the various elements (voice, music, sound effects) competing with or dominating the others for attention; the speaker's voice is clear and well-paced.